

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 15 are amended. Reconsideration based on the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (as the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution); (c) satisfy a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; (d) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (e) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because e.g. they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

In section 6 on pages 6-11, the Office Action rejects claims 1-12, 14 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,815,704 to Shimotsuji et al. (hereinafter "Shimotsuji") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,381,592 to Reuning. In section 7 on pages 12-13, the Office Action rejects claims 13 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimotsuji in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,438,682 to Kumagai. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 15, from which claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14 and 16 depend, recite, according to various combinations and in combination with the other subject matter recited therein, a recording medium, a program area, a data input form retrieving program, a storage unit and a keyword add unit. It is respectfully submitted that Shimotsuji, Reuming and Kumagai do not disclose, teach or suggest a recording medium, a program area, a data input form retrieving program, a storage unit and a keyword add unit in combination

with the other subject matter, and according to the various combinations, recited in the rejected claims.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of claims 1-16 in sections 6 and 7 on pages 6-13 of the Office Action be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-16 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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